

STATINTL

Town Topics

Intelligence Has Its Problems

By Marie McNair

"THE BOOK may prove mightier than the bomb; and ideas more explosive than secret weapons," former Central Intelligence Director Allen Dulles told members of the American Booksellers Association convention at their traditional "International Evening" reception last night at the Shoreham.



Mrs. McNair

Former President Eisenhower was honor guest and spoke briefly on his forthcoming book "Mandate for Change." He was introduced by Douglas Black, chairman of the board of Doubleday, publishers of Gen. Eisenhower's "Crusade in Europe." The General paid high tribute to Allen Dulles as one of his most valued associates.

His latest book, the General said, is on a very personal basis, deals with the decisions he was forced to make in those eight years in the White House and the complexities of the job as President. It is not a partisan document, he emphasized.

Dulles, already the author of several books, has written "The Craft of Intelligence" which will be published by Harper and Row in October.

"One of the problems we face today" said Dulles, "is how wisely to use our leisure time." One of the answers is books.

In "The Craft of Intelligence" the author tries to show that intelligence is a profession, an art and a craft, and it's essential in time of peril. It is, too, a protective force against the penetrations into the society of the free world, by Communist forces.

He got a laugh when commenting on the English security services which are among the best in the world, but not without their problems. One problem is undeserved "in a way of looking at it from the broad angle."

"People with weaknesses have no place in 'intelligence'" said Dulles. "One must come with clean hands and a pure heart."

One of Khrushchev's greatest preoccupations today is not nuclear, not agriculture, not Communist China, Dulles believes, but how to deal with the educated classes in Russia. The surface of culture has just been scratched. "Books and the written word in all their forms are the great secret weapon against communism and all its works."

Igor Kropotkin, president of the A.B.A., relayed to the gathering Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's regrets that he would not be able to be present last night. He read a report which has been sent to the Attorney General who in turn will transmit it to President Kennedy.

At the Attorney General's suggestion at last year's convention, an International Book program has been established and the A.B.A., in collaboration with the U. S. Information Agency, has selected 100 recently

published books reflecting the intellectual and cultural interests of the American people. One hundred countries in Europe, Latin America, Africa, the Near East and Far East will receive a complete collection of all titles, making it 19,000 volumes.

Various organizations, corporations and foundations have contributed to the funds and services necessary to assemble, pack and ship the books.

The former President left for Gettysburg immediately after his talk. His son, John, however stayed behind for the reception that followed.